



COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

**November 5, 2013
8:00 AM**

**Kent County Administration Office
300 Monroe Ave. NW
Room 311
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Vonk, Shroll, Bulkowski, Groenleer, VanderMolen, Rolls

ABSENT: Commissioners Byl

OTHERS PRESENT: Douglas G. Wood, Director; Dennis Kmiecik, Solid Waste Division Director; Ron Landis, Director of Engineering; Dan Kendall, Finance Division Director; Elissa Soto, Office Manager; Molly Sherwood, Environmental Compliance Manager; Chris Robinson, WTE Operations Manager; Cal Brinks, Purchasing Division; Linda Howell, Assistant Corporate Counsel

I. Call to Order

Chair Vonk called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Public Comment

None

III. Review and Approval of Minutes

MOTION

It was moved by Commissioner Bulkowski and supported by Commissioner VanderMolen to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2013 meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Solid Waste Operations

A. South Kent Landfill

1. Soil Borings Testing Contract

Staff requested the approval of the contract to complete soil borings, sampling and testing for the design of the MSE wall.

To assist in the design of the Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) wall for the proposed expansion of the existing ash monofill, staff prepared a request for proposals for the sampling and testing of onsite soil material. The purpose of this investigation is to determine if the soil material located on site is acceptable to use in the construction of the MSE wall. The work will involve boring, sampling and testing at approximately 18 locations in the ash area and three or four test pits. Seven proposals were received. Staff is recommending the award of the contract to Soils & Structures, Inc., low bidder, in the amount of \$20,727.

Commissioner Bulkowski asked if the costs of the soil borings were included in the initial costs for the MSE wall construction. Mr. Landis responded that it was planned and that staff wanted to bid this service separately.

Below is a summary of the bid results:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Soils & Structures, Inc.	\$20,727.00
Environmental Drilling & Contracting	\$21,880.00
DLZ Michigan, Inc.	\$22,412.00
Stearns Drilling	\$25,236.00
Enviro Slutions, Inc.	\$26,071.76
Materials Testing	\$27,794.00
Conestoga Rovers & Associates, Inc.	\$30,654.40

MOTION

It was moved by Commissioner VanderMolen and seconded by Commissioner Bulkowski to award the soil boring and testing contract to Soils & Structures, Inc. in the amount of \$20,727.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Earthwork Contract

Director Wood requested the approval of the extension of the South Kent Landfill Earthwork Contract for 2013 – 2014

Staff is requesting the extension of the 2012-2013 South Kent Landfill Earthwork Contract between Oetman Excavating and Kent County. If the contract is extended all unit item and hourly work costs will be the same as 2012-2013 earthwork contract for 2013- 2014. This unit price contract is estimated to be \$610,130. The work will involve preparing cell 55 for liner; excavating for daily, intermediate and final cover; and cleaning ponds and ditches.

Over the past year Oetman has completed excellent work at the landfill and maintaining continuity for the next year would be beneficial.

Commissioner Rolls asked whether it is possible to ask for a performance bond to see whether they are financially sound. Cal Brinks, Purchasing Division stated that it

is something that could be done, but didn't feel necessary since the County has had a long, positive history with the company.

Commissioner Bulkowski wondered if the bid process was not required for this type of contract. Director Wood responded that when it was initially bid, there was a provision in the contract that it could be extended if the County so chooses.

MOTION

It was moved by Commissioner Rolls and seconded by Commissioner VanderMolen to award the 2013-2014 South Kent Landfill Earthwork Contract to Oetman Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$610,130. The unit prices from 2012-2013 Earthwork Contract will remain unchanged.

Motion carried unanimously.

V. Conference/Education Travels

A. SWANA – Senior Executive Seminar

Director Wood requested the review and approval for Director Wood to attend SWANA's 18th Annual Senior Executive Seminar in Key West, Florida from January 29-30, 2014.

SWANA's Senior Executive Seminar (by invitation) brings together executive-level directors and managers of major public sector solid waste agencies throughout North America along with their counterparts from the private sector. The seminar features presentations and panel discussions dealing with today's most important issues, breakout sessions where participants come together to brainstorm practical solutions to the most pressing questions regarding solid waste management. Board members received a copy of the agenda and program for the seminar.

Mr. Wood added that this seminar is by invitation only and recommended that Board members attend. He suggested that it would be a good place to identify potential candidates to replace senior management.

MOTION

It was moved by Commissioner Bulkowski and seconded by Commissioner VanderMolen to approve the travel request for Director Douglas G. Wood and any commissioner to attend SWANA's 18th Annual Senior Executive Seminar in Key West, Florida from January 29-30, 2014, at an estimated cost of \$2095.

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. Approval of Monetary Outlays

MOTION

It was moved by Commissioner VanderMolen and supported by Commissioner Rolls to approve the monetary outlays for the month of November 2013.

Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Director's Report

A. Overview of Solid Waste Plan Implementation

Mr. Wood updated the Board on the Solid Waste Plan implementation plan. Staff has provided a draft ordinance to the Solid Waste Plan Committee. Mr. Wood presented

the Board with landfill historical information, the draft Ordinance presented to the Solid Waste Plan Committee and a sample surcharge cash flow rate sheet. Mr. Wood added that the Committee has made a number of recommendations that have been incorporated into the proposed Ordinance.

The Commissioners noted that the cash flow sheet showed a shortage in funds. Staff responded that it was exactly what they wanted Committee members to understand.

B. Legislation Update

Director Wood updated the Board on the hearing on yard waste. Yard waste is currently banded from the landfill. There is new legislation that wants to allow yard waste at the landfill for facilities that have gas-to-energy systems.

He added that the Department's interest is that yard waste be allowed at the Waste-to-Energy Facility.

C. Operation Reports Summary

Board members received operation reports for the sites. Commissioner VanderMolen wondered about the added shift at the MRF. Mr. Kmiecik reported that the additional shift is working very well. Staff is almost caught up and making up for the lost weeks earlier in the year.

D. 2014 Meeting Dates

Board members were given potential meeting dates for 2014. Final dates will be confirmed after the Board of Commissioners meeting dates have been confirmed.

VIII. Miscellaneous

A. Department Director Performance Evaluation

Board members received the evaluation for Director Wood. They were asked to complete the evaluation and return it in the enclosed envelope.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.